

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of September 8, 2004. With this response, claim 38 is amended, claim 51 is added, and all pending claims 1, 2, 4-11, 29-35 and 37-51 are presented for reconsideration and favorable action.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 38-50 under 35 U.S.C. § 112. The rejected language from claim 38 is deleted with this Amendment and that rejection may be withdrawn.

Claims 38, 41-43, 47 and 49-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based upon Jansen et al. in view of Moe et al. and further in view of Stockum and Dreibelbis et al. A similar rejection was set forth in Paragraph 6 based upon Pierce et al.

Independent claim 38 has been amended to describe the contoured surface section as having a curvature which varies. This curvature can be seen for example, at Figure 12 generally indicated by numeral 400. As illustrated in Figure 12, the curvature of the contoured surface varies and does not have a fixed curvature. Although it is not precisely clear from the references cited, it is believed that they do not show such a configuration.

Further, claim 38 has been amended to state that at least a portion of the contoured surface section having a curvature which varies curves outwardly relative to the mandrel. This can also be seen generally at 400 illustrated in Figure 12. It is believed that this configuration is also not shown in the references.

New claim 51 states that the contoured surface section includes at least a portion which curves inwardly. This is illustrated, for example, in Figure 12 of the application on either side of the portion illustrated generally at 400. It is believed that this configuration also is not shown by the cited references.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance. Consideration and favorable action are respectfully requested.

A petition for a one-month extension of time is hereby requested. A check in the amount of \$120.00 is included herewith for the extension fee.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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